



SOMERVILLE BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE JANUARY 2026 MEETING MINUTES

Mayor Jake Wilson

Community Representatives

*Lena Webb, Chair
*Ted Feldman, Vice Chair
*Paul Morgan, Secretary
*Adrienne Agarwal
Kathryne Benesh

*Alex Frieden
*Katharine Lange
*Tom Lamar
*Amanda Rychel

Ex Officio

Jon Link, City Council
*Greg Hanafin, OSPCD Mobility
*Rishika Dhawan, OSPCD
Mobility
Eric Weisman, DPW

Thursday, January 8, 2026, 6:30-8:00PM

Note: Meeting will be hybrid

In-person meeting location: 101 South St, Somerville, MA 02143

Procedural, General Business & Updates (10 minutes)

- Roll call and meeting logistics
 - Lena noted the new mayor and new City Council ex officio.
- Acting Secretary: Tom Lamar
- Approval of December meeting minutes
 - Meeting minutes were approved.

Focus: Outreach and Engagement (30 minutes)

- Illuminations Tour - 2025 debrief and future plans
 - Paul shared that the ride successfully hosted approximately 275 people. Each turn had a marshal to facilitate ride safety. The response was overwhelmingly positive.
 - For future years, ideas include: Varying routes, creating our own illuminations on public spaces, flyering houses on routes encouraging participation, inflatables, using our own website, facilitating hanging out at the end of the ride.
 - Alex and Paul discussed the potential for expanding to a Halloween bike ride, or SBAC participating in planned Family Bike Ride for Halloween.
 - Paul noted that family-friendly rides rely on safe infrastructure, and that several planned mobility projects will facilitate expanded family-friendly rides to more neighborhoods.
- Website/Media update
 - Paul shared that the new website is ready pending a domain swap.
- Other outreach events
 - Adrienne informed Rishika the events SBAC anticipates tabling at, and will coordinate volunteer DRIs per event.
- Public comment

Focus: New membership (30 minutes)

- Procedural details
 - Greg shared the steps of new membership: a call for members, an application period, an interview panel, mayor and city council approvals, and new members sworn in by the city clerk.
- Goals for the Committee

- The committee expressed an interest in proceeding with a call for new members, likely aiming for 15 members total.
- The committee proposed to share a draft call for members at the next meeting for endorsement.
- Public comment

City Updates (20 minutes)

- City Update
 - Elm-Beacon Connector, Somerville Ave, and Community Path Safety Improvements are all in design development, and some have updated community engagement reports available on Somervoice.
 - Tufts St and West Broadway have some drainage work underway, and streetscape reconstruction will occur in the spring.
 - Improvements to the School St Community Path crossing are in internal development, anticipating community feedback in the spring.
 - Somerville Ave at Central St: The project is managed by Engineering, but Greg shared the feedback to Mobility has been predominantly positive. Lena said there are still some concerns biking westbound across Central St, and suggested Yield to Peds & Bikes signage.
 - Members expressed interest in meeting with the new administration to share priorities.
- Public Comment